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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

## Minerals Inspection Report

Report Date: 9/3/2014

Reviewed PRB

Mine Name: Pitchfork Springs/Multi-Colored Green	Permit Number: S/027/0033	Mine Status: Reclaimed
Operator Name: Dale Rogers	Inspection Date: 08/12/2014	Permit Fees: n/a
Inspector(s): Peter Brinton	Inspection Time: 6:30am - 7am	Bond Amount: \$7,000
Attendee(s): none	Weather: partly overcast	Bond Escalation: n/a
Inspection Purpose: Routine inspection to check on revegetation		Prior Inspection: 7/10/2012

### Conclusions and Recommendations

The reclaimed site is stable but very weedy. Revegetation standards have not been met, and it is recommended that the reclamation bond be retained. It appears that the site has not been seeded. Seeding is strongly recommended in late fall of 2014 on scarified soils using a certified seed mix approved by the BLM and the Division as a way to establish revegetation. Provide the Division with the details of your seeding job.

Elements of Inspection		Evaluated & Commented	Enforcement
1.	Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Division will retain the reclamation surety of \$7,000 until revegetation requirements have been met.			
2.	Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Protection of Drainages/Erosion Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No notable erosion on the graded quarry was observed, probably because of the rockiness of the slopes and the roughened surface provided by regrading. The access road (approved for post-mining access) has significant gullying.			
4.	Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The access road (to remain after reclamation is complete) is very rough due to the gullying, and access to the site is challenging.			
6.	Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.	Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The site does not meet revegetation requirements of the Division, and it is recommended that reclamation surety be retained. Much of the site is growing a fair amount of weeds, including cheatgrass, halogetan, Russian thistle, and a few others. In a few areas, rabbitbrush and a few native grasses (Indian ricegrass and apparently squirreltail) are present, but not in any significant amounts. Quite a bit of the site near the middle and top of the hill is still fairly bare (and mostly covered in loose rock), and efforts should also be made to establish good vegetation in these parts of the site. Cheatgrass is growing in some areas of loose rock.</p> <p>A few unidentified taller thistle skeletons and rosettes were found, and thistle control may be needed by early to mid summer of 2015.</p> <p>Seeding is recommended for the entire site on re-roughened soils in the late fall or early winter of 2014 using a seed mix approved by BLM and the Division. Documentation of the seeding effort (including the seeded species, seed tags, soil preparation/roughening, time of seeding, any photos, etc) should be kept and provided to the Division.</p>			
10.	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Inspector's Signature: Peter Brinton

CC: Dale Rogers, operator (P.O. Box 697, Delta, Utah 84624)  
Lyle Jessop, earthwork contractor (P.O. Box 1459, Hildale, Utah 84784-1459)  
Duane Bays, BLM-Fillmore (dbays@blm.gov); UTU-070681

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Undisturbed areas with sagebrush mixed with some cheatgrass and native grasses at the top of the hill.



Halogetan near the bottom of the slopes, looking southwest.



The upper graded area, which is largely bare rock and some cheatgrass. Near the top, and adjacent to the undisturbed areas, there were a couple native plants.



Looking east and down the slope towards the parking area. Mostly cheatgrass, with halogetan and some spotty native shrubs (rabbitbrush) at the bottom.





Overview of graded site with a few spots of native vegetation surrounded by cheatgrass and halogetan, primarily. Russian thistle was also present. Stitched photo.



Example of a thistle rosette and cheatgrass. Thistles control may needed in 2015.



Cheatgrass, rabbitbrush, halogetan, and Russian thistle.